

join me in recognizing the Aquarium of the Pacific for having received the high honor of the Super Nova Star of Energy Efficiency.

COMMEMORATING THE SUMGAIT POGROM

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, this past Sunday marked the twenty-second anniversary of the pogrom against Azerbaijanis of Armenian descent in the town of Sumgait, Azerbaijan. The 3-day massacre in the winter of 1988 resulted in the deaths of scores of Armenians, many of whom were burnt to death after being brutally beaten and tortured. Hundreds of others were wounded. Women and girls were brutally raped. The carnage created thousands of ethnic Armenian refugees, who had to leave everything behind to be looted or destroyed, including their homes, cars and businesses.

These crimes, which were proceeded by a wave of anti-Armenian rallies throughout Azerbaijan, were never adequately prosecuted by Azerbaijan authorities. Many who organized or participated in the bloodshed have gone on to serve in high positions on the Azeri government. For example, in the days leading up to the massacre, a leader of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan, Hidayat Orujev, warned Armenians in Sumgait: "If you do not stop campaigning for the unification of Nagorno Karabakh with Armenia, if you don't sober up, 100,000 Azeris from neighboring districts will break into your houses, torch your apartments, rape your women, and kill your children." Orujev is currently the State Advisor for Ethnic Policy to Azeri President Heidar Aliyev.

Despite efforts by the Government of Azerbaijan to cover up the events of February 1988, survivors of the pogrom have come forward with their stories. They told of enraged mobs, which threw furniture, refrigerators, television sets and beds from apartment balconies and set them afire. Armenians were dragged from their apartments. If they tried to run and escape, the mob attacked them with metal rods, knives and hatchets before the victims were thrown into the fire. One witness said of a victim, "He was still moving, trying to escape from fire, but five young men were pushing him back into the fire with metal rods." Others told of Interior Ministry troops, who stood by doing nothing.

The Sumgait massacres led to wider reprisals against Azerbaijan's ethnic minority, resulting in the virtual disappearance of Azerbaijan's 450,000-strong Armenian community, and culminating in the war launched against the people of Nagorno Karabakh. That war resulted in almost 30,000 dead on both sides and created more than one million refugees in both Armenia and Azerbaijan.

This April will mark the 95th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, a crime that Azerbaijan's ally and protector Turkey has devoted enormous political resources to deny. Just as we cannot allow the first genocide of the Twentieth Century to fade into history, the memory of the victims of Sumgait must not be forgotten either.

TRIBUTE TO DON THOMPSON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an accomplished and talented corporate leader who is an outstanding role model as we celebrate Black History Month. Don Thompson is the recently appointed President and Chief Operating Officer for the McDonald's Corporation in Oak Brook, Illinois. Mr. Thompson is in charge of global strategy and operations for McDonald's 32,000 restaurants in 117 countries. He is tasked with maximizing profits for the company's many shareholders across the globe.

Don was raised in Chicago and Indianapolis by his grandmother. He credits his early success to her unwavering commitment to his education and wellbeing. Thanks to her determination and Don's hard work, he graduated from Purdue University with a degree in electrical engineering and got a job at the Northrop Corporation. He joined McDonald's in 1990 as a Restaurant Systems Engineer but soon realized his interest lay in restaurant operations.

In 1993, Don was named Director of Strategic Planning and Quality Management. Since then, he has risen quickly through McDonald's operational structure, performing beyond expectations in each position he has been given. In 1998 he was named the San Diego Regional Manager, a position that put him in charge of 300 area restaurants. Within a year, San Diego went from being McDonald's 39th most profitable market to its 2nd.

Five years later, Don was promoted to the position of Executive Vice President of Global Innovation where he helped expand and improve McDonald's global operations. Under his guidance, foreign branches were retooled to satisfy local palates. McDonald's international sales soon grew as a result and many observers attributed this turnaround to Don's ambitious initiatives.

In 2006, Don became the President of McDonald's USA where he oversaw all of the company's 14,000 American locations. He helped steer the company to several years of positive domestic growth. Last month Don was named to his current position as President and Chief Operating Officer. He now plans McDonald's global strategy and helps execute its implementation.

Don has been recognized for his outstanding work at McDonald's by a number of media outlets and business associations. Black Enterprise named him Corporate Executive of the Year. In 2008 the Trumpet Foundation awarded Don the Corporate Executive award. Last year, he received the Presidential Inspiration Award from Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated.

Along with being a gifted businessman, Don is a committed member of his community and remains true to his humble beginnings. "Don't get into the pity party of what's going to be done for you, because there are so many things you can do for yourself," he has said. "Others will see what you do and will look to support and help you." He currently serves on the board of trustees for Purdue University and is a member of the Executive Leadership Council. He is a former member of the San

Diego Ronald McDonald House Charities board of directors.

While reaching the upper echelons of American business, Don has remained a committed family man. He lives in the Chicago area with his wife Elizabeth and their two children.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Don Thompson on his recent appointment and the positive example he sets for all Americans. In this month, when we recognize the contributions of African Americans in this country, it is fitting and proper that we include corporate leaders like Mr. Thompson, who have broken barriers and opened doors for future generations to follow. I applaud his extraordinary accomplishments and the wonderful legacy he has built through hard work and perseverance.

EXTEND TAX CREDIT FOR THE PRODUCTION OF STEEL INDUSTRY FUEL

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. DOYLE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to lend my support to a provision in the Extenders Bill that is being debated in the Senate to extend and clarify a tax credit for the production of Steel Industry Fuel, SIF. Last Fall, my colleagues and I introduced a similar bill to extend and clarify the SIF credit. SIF is used by the domestic steel industry as a feedstock for the manufacture of coke, which is coal that has been carbonized and is used as a fuel in steel making.

In October, 2008, Congress enacted a new refined coal tax credit under Section 45 of the tax code for the production of steel industry fuel, which is made from coal waste sludge and coal. The availability of the steel industry fuel tax credit provides a subsidy for projects that may not otherwise be commercially viable on account of materials, process, technology and other transaction costs. As originally enacted, the SIF credit was available for only one year. The placed-in-service period for the credit expired as of December 31, 2009, so new steel industry fuel projects cannot be brought on line without an extension of the credit.

The use of Steel Industry Fuel provides significant energy, environmental, and economic benefits, all of which argue for an extension of the SIF credit. The primary benefit of manufacturing SIF is that the production process recaptures the BTU content of coal waste sludge. The Environmental Protection Agency has approved the production of SIF as a method for disposing of coal waste sludge, and the production of SIF is the preferred method of coal waste sludge disposal. In addition, our domestic steel industry can become more competitive by using SIF because it lowers production and operation costs.

From an energy resource and environmental standpoint, the production of SIF is the superior method of disposing of coal waste sludge, it would otherwise be treated as a hazardous waste under applicable Federal environmental rules. The alternative methods of disposal are incineration and land-filling, each of which requires the physical conveyance of a waste product off-site. These disposal methods fail to